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M2096-4.PA1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Takako **FUJII** et al.  
Serial No. : not assigned  
Filed : concurrently herewith  
For : **GARMENT**  
Examiner : not assigned  
Art Unit : not assigned  
Docket No. : M2096-4

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on:

Date : Mar. 21, 2002  
By : M.L. GOLDSTEIN  
Signature : M. Goldstein  
Customer Receipt No.: EL 316356380 US

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PCT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to calculation of fees and prior to examination on the merits, please amend  
the above identified patent application as follows:

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**CLEAN VERSION**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly delete claims 3-6, 10-12, 15, 16 and 17-24 in the attached translation of the international application without prejudice.

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# REMARKS

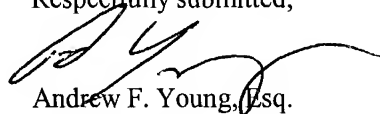
The claims are canceled to conform with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office multiple dependent claim practice as well as to reduce the filing fees due.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 13, and 14 pending.

No new matter is added.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4550.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew F. Young, Esq.

Reg. No. 44,001

Atty. for Applicant

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Date: December 10, 2001

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box PCT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above identified patent application as follows:



**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add the new claims as shown below:

25. (New) The garment according to claim 1, further comprising a strong staining portion (C), wherein:

right and left parts of the portion (C) are connected at a position on the garment corresponding to musculus rectus abdominis in hypogastric region; and

the portion (C) covers a region extending obliquely upward from the position on musculus rectus abdominis in hypogastric region approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obloquies externus abdominis at right and left to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the back side.

26. (New) The garment according to claim 2, further comprising a strong staining portion (C), wherein:

right and left parts of the portion (C) are connected at a position on the garment corresponding to musculus rectus abdominis in hypogastric region; and

the portion (C) covers a region extending obliquely upward from the position on musculus rectus abdominis in hypogastric region approximately in the direction of muscle fibers of musculus obloquies externus abdominis at right and left to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the back side.

27. (New) The garment according to claim 1, further comprising a strong staining portion (D), wherein:

right and left parts of the portion (D) are connected approximately in the vicinity of a position on the garment corresponding to the back center of the waist; and

the portion (D) covers a region extending from the vicinity of the position at the back center of the waist through musculus latissimus dorsi and musculus gluteus medius at right and left and a part of musculus obloquies externus abdominis to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the front side.

28. (New) The garment according to claim 26, further comprising a strong straining portion (D), wherein:

right and left parts of the portion (D) are connected approximately in the vicinity of a position on the garment corresponding to the back center of the waist; and

the portion (D) covers a region extending from the vicinity of the position at the back center of the waist through musculus latissimus dorsi and musculus gluteus medius at right and left and a part of musculus obloquies externus abdominis to at least a position exceeding the sides of the wearer to the front side.

29. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:

the portion indicated by the portion (A) is a strong straining portion (A2); and

the portion (A2) further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major toward regio femoralis anterior medialis through at least a part of any at least one musculus quadriceps femoris selected from musculus sartorius, musculus rectus femoris and musculus vastus medialis.

30. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:

the portion indicated by the portion (A) is a strong straining portion (A3); and

the portion (A3) further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major through the vicinity of tractus iliotibialis and/or musculus vastus lateralis in regio femoralis to a position a little higher than patella.

31. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:

the portion indicated by the portion (A) is a strong straining portion (A4); and

the portion (A4) further covers a region extending from the vicinity of trochanter major through the vicinity of tractus iliotibialis and/or musculus vastus lateralis to patella, and further from patella through the vicinity of musculus gastrocnemius and/or musculus soleus in the regio cruris lateralis to the vicinity of an upper part of malleolus lateralis so as to support musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus.

32. (New) The garment according to 28, further comprising a strong straining portion (C-D) in which the portion (C) and the portion (D) are united and continuous.

33. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by laminating a cloth on the front side or back side of a main body fabric of the garment.

34. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by changing a stitch for knitting a main body fabric of the garment to form a weak straining portion and a strong straining portion in patterns.

35. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by laminating a film of a synthetic resin or rubber having elasticity on a predetermined part of a main body fabric of the garment or by impregnating or coating a



40. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:  
the garment comprises a stretch fabric,  
the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part,  
and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body,

the position of a lower end of the garment is approximately the same as or higher than the position of the crotch part; and

the garment does not have a leg part cylindrically covering regio femoralis to at least a position lower than the crotch part.

41. (New) The garment according to claim 31, further comprising a strong straining portion (E), wherein:

the portion (E) covers a region extending from an upper part of regio femoralis medialis through musculus vastus medialis to patella so as to support musculus vastus medialis, and further from patella through the vicinity of one of musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus in region curis medialis to the vicinity of an upper part of malleolus medialis so as to support musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus.



**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

At page 3, between lines 3 and 4, please add the heading

**OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Please delete line 15 of page 3, reading "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION".

At line 2 of page 10, please insert

The above, and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following description read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference numerals designate the same elements.

At the end of page 82, please insert

Having described preferred embodiments of the invention with reference to the accompanying drawings, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to those precise embodiments, and that various changes and modifications may be effected therein by one skilled in the art without departing from the scope or spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.





35. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein a strong straining portion is formed by laminating a film of a synthetic resin or rubber having elasticity on a predetermined part of a main body fabric of the garment or by impregnating or coating a predetermined part of a main body fabric of the garment with a solution or emulsion of a synthetic resin or rubber having elasticity followed by drying.

37. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein the stretch fabric is a knitted fabric selected from a two-way stretch tricot and a stretch raschel.

38. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:  
the garment comprises a stretch fabric,  
the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part,  
and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body, and  
the garment is selected from a girdle, spats, sports tights, bodysuit, leotard and  
swimsuit.

39. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:  
the garment comprises a stretch fabric,  
the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part,  
and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body, and  
the garment has a leg part cylindrically covering regio femoralis of the wearer  
body to at least a position lower than the crotch part.

40. (New) The garment according to claim 1, wherein:  
the garment comprises a stretch fabric,  
the garment covers at least a part of the lower body of a wearer, has a crotch part,  
and is worn by being fitted to the wearer body,  
the position of a lower end of the garment is approximately the same as or higher  
than the position of the crotch part; and

the garment does not have a leg part cylindrically covering regio femoralis to at least a position lower than the crotch part.

41. (New) The garment according to claim 31, further comprising a strong straining portion (E), wherein:

the portion (E) covers a region extending from an upper part of regio femoralis medialis through musculus vastus medialis to patella so as to support musculus vastus medialis, and further from patella through the vicinity of one of musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus in region curis medialis to the vicinity of an upper part of malleolus medialis so as to support musculus gastrocnemius and musculus soleus.